

STRANGE TALES

MARVEL
COMICS GROUP 12¢

MY FLAMES
DON'T AFFECT THE
ASBESTOS MAN!!
LOOKS LIKE CURTAINS
FOR MY FAVORITE
TEEN-AGER.....
NAMELY **ME!!**

HOW CAN THE
HUMAN TORCH
DEFEND HIMSELF
AGAINST THE
ASBESTOS MAN?



MARVEL COMICS
GROUP USHERS IN
**THE MARVEL AGE
OF COMICS!**

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS!



ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE REPAIRING

SECURITY — INDEPENDENCE WORK SHORT HOURS

There are millions of electrical equipment units in daily use . . . in factories, homes, office buildings and on farms. Skilled electrical technicians are needed to keep this equipment in good running condition. Learn at home in spare time.

You can now BE TRAINED to fill this BIG NEED . . . a need that grows day by day because of new electrical inventions for home and factory.

If you are mechanically inclined, can hold and use tools, we can give you the training and time-saving kits that will enable you to . . . Command More Money at Work . . . A Better Paying Job Elsewhere . . . Or A Business Of Your Own!

The ELECTRONIC KIT, a multi-purpose trouble detector, and other valuable Shop Method Training is sent to you! All instruction material is written in simple, easy-to-understand language, chock full of hundreds of detailed photos and drawings. Used by servicemen the country over.

We show you how to quickly locate the trouble, how to fix it and what to charge. ALSO, how to solicit business and keep business coming to you.

Get Full Facts on how you can get this training at home in your spare time and pay for it out of your earnings while learning!

SEND COUPON TODAY

WORKING KIT
FURNISHED

FREE BOOK
On America's fastest growing industry

CHRISTY TRADES SCHOOL, Dept. A-271
3214 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago 25, Ill.

Gentlemen:

Please rush me your FREE ILLUSTRATED BOOK about Electrical Appliance Servicing, facts on your Electronic Kit and Special form for paying later from earnings while learning.

NAME _____ Age _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ Zone _____ State _____

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN!

Only had your course a few short weeks and have already made \$800.00. Going to quit my job paying \$250.00 straight salary to operate my own business.—J. D. S., St. Louis, Mo.

I work day times at the shipyard, and after at 4:00 P. M., operate from my cellar and garage. I average \$10.00 to \$15.00 clear every day.—Walter Hankey, Brockton, Mass.



IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN, BASEMENT, OR GARAGE

You don't need elaborate fixtures or expensive equipment to be a successful repairman. Work as many hours as you wish. The Electrical Appliance Technician is his own boss!

**\$5.00 - \$6.00
HOUR**

often charged for making ordinary repairs. We show you how to repair refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, motors, etc., etc.

AGE IS NO BARRIER

Nor is a minor physical handicap. Work is light, pleasant and PROFITABLE.

the HUMAN TORCH

"FIGHTING TO THE DEATH WITH THE ASBESTOS MAN!"

PLOT: STAN LEE
STORY: H. HUNTER
ART: DICK AYERS
LETTERING:
S. HAROLD

WHAT A
STORY!
THE HUMAN
TORCH
DEFEATED
BY THE
ASBESTOS
MAN!

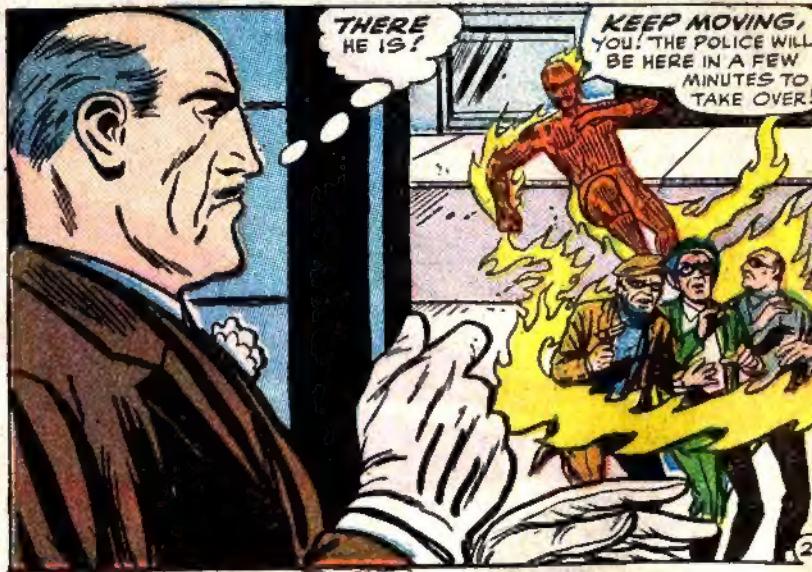
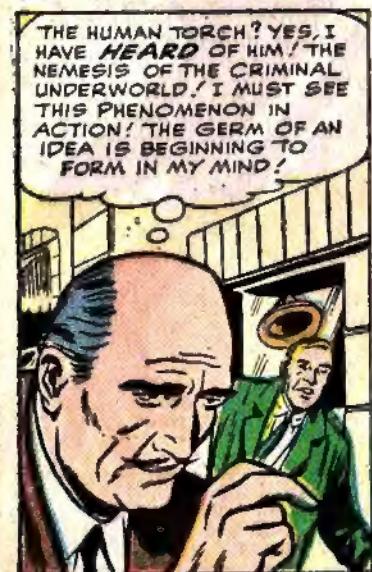
AND I'VE
GOT PICTURES
TO PROVE IT!

IS THIS THE END OF THE
HUMAN TORCH AS A
CRIME FIGHTER?
DEFEATED BY A CRIMINAL
WITH A BRILLIANT
SCIENTIFIC MIND, HIS
REPUTATION RUINED BY
THE FANTASTIC
ASBESTOS MAN?
HOW CAN THE TORCH
EVER AGAIN BE A FACTOR
IN THE UNCEASING WAR
AGAINST CRIME? WILL
THE ASBESTOS MAN
RING DOWN THE CURTAIN
ON THE BRILLIANT
CAREER OF THE TEEN-
AGE TORCH?

YOUR FLAME
IS USELESS
AGAINST ME!
YOU HAVE MET
YOUR MATCH
THIS TIME,
TORCH!

I'VE THROWN EVERYTHING I
HAVE AT HIM... IN A MOMENT
MY FLAME WILL BE EXHAUSTED...
AND NOTHING, EVEN MY MOST
INTENSE FLAME, AFFECTS HIM
IN THE LEAST! IT LOOKS LIKE
I'M BEATEN AT LAST!

AND NOW, LET US BEGIN OUR
UNFORGETTABLE TALE AS WE FIND
PROFESSOR ORSON KASLOFF WALKING
THROUGH THE STREET, DEEP IN THOUGHT...



FIRE!...THE BASIC ELEMENT! YES, I CAN SEE WHERE THE UNDERWORLD WOULD FEAR THE HUMAN TORCH! THEIR WEAPONS WOULD BE POWERLESS AGAINST HIM!



BUT OTHER EYES WATCH, TOO...BITTER EYES, THE GLEAMING, MERCILESS EYES OF BLACKIE BARKER, KING OF THE UNDERWORLD!



AS THE POLICE ARRIVE ON THE SCENE, ANOTHER FIGURE ALSO DEPARTS...



AND, AS PROFESSOR KASLOFF WALKS TOWARD HIS NEARBY LODGINGS, HIS BRILLIANT MIND RUNS LIKE LIGHTNING OVER THE IMMEDIATE PAST, BRINGING IT INTO FOCUS...



I IMAGINE HE WAS TEMPTED TO COME TO WORK FOR US BECAUSE OF THE GREATER FINANCIAL REWARDS TO BE FOUND IN COMMERCIALIZING HIS SCIENTIFIC GENIUS!

GREATER FINANCIAL REWARDS! HUH! THEY PAY ME LITTLE ENOUGH! A MAN OF MY GREAT SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND ABILITY SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE A KING. I SHOULD BE AS RICH AS CROESUS. BUT I'M NOT!!

INSTEAD, I SLAVE FOR A MERE PITTANCE, WHILE THEY REAP THE PROFITS FROM MY DISCOVERIES! BUT THAT WILL ALL BE CHANGED NOW! I'LL WORK ONLY FOR MYSELF FROM NOW ON!



MY NEW CHEMICAL, A LIQUID SOLVENT THAT CAN MELT STEEL AND IRON UPON CONTACT! IT COULD MELT THE COMPANY SAFE FILLED WITH THE MONEY MY INVENTIVENESS HAS MADE FOR THEM, JUST AS EASILY AS IT MELTED THE SINK!

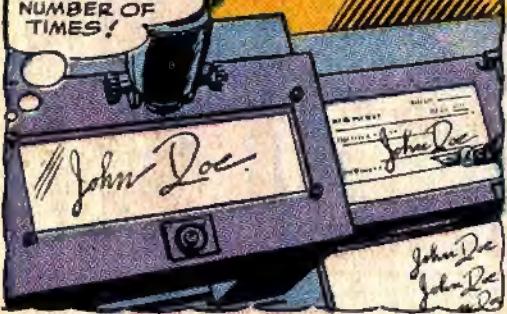


YES, THAT IS THE ANSWER... CRIME! I CAN TURN MY GREAT SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE TO CRIME AND BECOME THE GREATEST CRIMINAL IN THE WORLD! WHY, I COULD EASILY MELT THE STRONGEST BANK VAULT EVER BUILT WITH MY SOLVENT.



PICTURES COME TO THE EVIL GENIUS'S MIND...PICTURES OF THE UNLIMITED CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES THAT COULD BE CHILD'S PLAY TO A MAN OF HIS ABILITIES!

FORGERY! HAH! HOW EASY FOR ME TO CREATE A PEN THAT WILL ELECTRONICALLY MIMIC ANY SIGNATURE PERFECTLY AND REPRODUCE IT ANY GIVEN NUMBER OF TIMES!



A PRESS THAT WILL, IN THE SAME MANNER, REPRODUCE ANY BILL, BOND OR LEGAL PAPER! CHEMICALLY I COULD PRODUCE THE EXACT PAPER AND INK NECESSARY!



THROUGH CHEMICAL GASES I COULD RAID FORT KNOX, THE TREASURY OF THE NATION... RENDER THE GUARDS UNCONSCIOUS, TAKE WHAT I PLEASE!



I COULD PILLAGE THE WORLD! STEAL THE MOST CAREFULLY GUARDED TREASURES!



AND SO, ARMED WITH HIS SOLVENT AND A DEVICE TO OPEN ANY DOOR, PROFESSOR KASLOFF, THAT SAME NIGHT, ATTEMPTS HIS FIRST CRIME, THE PILLAGING OF THE COMPANY FOR WHICH HE WORKS!



THUS, THE PROFESSOR BEGINS TO HAUNT THE CRIMINAL DIVES OF THE CITY'S SLUMS, SEARCHING FOR THE MEN HE NEEDS TO FOSTER HIS CRIMINAL CAREER!



WHICH BRINGS US UP TO THE MOMENT WHEN THE HUMAN TORCH ENTERS THE SCENE...



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

MASQUERADE

TOMMY used to be the fellow from Missouri . . . the guy who had to be shown. The saying goes, "I'm from Missouri. You've got to show me." That was always the way with Tommy. Even when he was a kid and everyone on the block would take Santa Claus for real, Tommy thought he knew better. Not that anyone had to tell him, either. To him it came naturally.

His parents marveled at their son's ability to stick to the facts, and they predicted his career as a "private eye" even before the days of television. When other kids his age were flashing baby teeth smiles over nursery rhymes, Tommy would shake his head sadly and say, "Impossible." A mouse would not climb up a clock, Tommy insisted. Any old lady in her right mind couldn't live in a shoe, he pointed out angrily. The worst mistake his mother made was taking him to a movie called "Alice in Wonderland."

"Kid stuff," he said, very unimpressed at the age of eight years. "Just a waste of time."

Tommy's friends never knew exactly what to make of him. He would tail after them, always very serious looking, yet hardly ever join their games of make believe.

"How about playing cowboys?" they would ask.

"Without a horse?" asked Tommy disdainfully.

That's the way it was.

Tommy grew up to man size and sure enough he went to work for a private investigating outfit. He was one of the most promising young men in his field.

Although he enjoyed his work thoroughly, this young "private eye" wandered from office routine on one particular occasion

when Kitty Blake took over a job as secretary at his office.

Kitty was pretty as the first real day of Spring. Tommy invited her to go to the movies with him, and she accepted with a very pleasant smile. Everything was going along fine that night until Hollywood double-crossed Tommy. He had never been able to sit through a film without looking it over for flaws. In one dramatic scene Tommy leaned over and pointed out to Kitty that the heroine had changed her hair style in the space of minutes, a glaring error that would never be possible in real life. When the leading man's pocket handkerchief disappeared the moment he walked through a revolving door, Tommy was beside himself with dismay. He raved on and on during the picture until a few people in the audience turned around to stare at him. Kitty sat there quietly.

"Did you like the picture?" Tommy asked on the way home.

"What I managed to hear of it," Kitty answered laughingly.

Tommy blushed.

"I guess I got carried away with those technical errors," he admitted. "I'm a stickler for realism."

"Then maybe I'd better not ask you to the party a friend of mine is giving a week from now," said Kitty. "It's a Come-in-Costume party. You wouldn't go for that sort of thing, would you?"

"Not ordinarily." Tommy took one look at Kitty. "But if the invitation is still open, I can make it."

"I'll write down the address for you," said Kitty. "You mustn't tell me what you're coming as. That's supposed to be a surprise until you get there. It'll

be lots of fun."

Tommy nodded helplessly. If it had been anyone but Kitty . . . He shuddered at the thought of such foolish goings-on, wondering if he could go through with it when the moment came.

The evening of the party Tommy almost changed his mind about going. If it weren't for Kitty and this chance to meet her friends, he wouldn't have gotten himself into such a mess. He couldn't wear a costume, he decided, because it wasn't in himself to put on anything make-believe. He couldn't disappoint Kitty and not show up, so he wore his usual blue suit. If Kitty or anyone asked him why he wasn't in costume he would tell them the truth . . . that he wanted to come there to be with all of them, but he was a plain fellow who respected facts above fantasy.

He took a bus to Locust Corners. Following the address that Kitty had given him, he proceeded to Hollow Street. The pavement ended after a few short blocks, and he found himself strolling through some thicketed outskirts. It was a lovely evening, a skyful of stars scattered overhead and rich grassy smells perfuming the night accompanied by tuneful crickets chirping their songs. Tommy strolled along happily until he realized that he was in a very remote area. There were no houses here. He stared anxiously about him until he saw among the tree-tops, not too far away, a colorful glimmer of lights.

"That must be the party!" he decided. Probably it was an outdoor affair, and among the trees at night without street lamps to point the way, he wasn't able to see any house.

He hung back shyly when he

CONTINUED

GIVE ME JUST ONE EVENING and I'LL TEACH YOU TO HYPNOTIZE EASILY!



25 MIRACLE LESSONS

HOW TO HYPNOTIZE
New Simple Technique

HOW TO AWAKEN SUBJECT

THE POST-HYPNOTIC
SUGGESTION

How to make others do your bidding
after they are awakened; hypnotizing
by telephone.

HOW TO GAIN MAGNETIC
NEW PERSONALITY

MESMERISM
Quick technique for hypnotizing.

MAGNETIC HEALING

How to stop pain. Much surgery is
performed by Hypnotism.

HOW TO HYPNOTIZE
FOR MONEY

CURING BAD HABITS

End sleeplessness, stop smoking,
lose weight, etc.

POWER OF SUGGESTION

HYPNOTIZE YOURSELF

MAGNETIC INFLUENCE

Control others.

HYPNOTIZING CROWDS

HOW TO ENTERTAIN

MIND READING

HYPNOTISM IN BUSINESS

and much, much more is covered!

Hypnotize others quickly, safely---perform
any known HYPNOTIC FEAT with EASE!
Amaze friends---Exert your Hypnotic Power
over others - Be POPULAR and WANTED!

YES, it's true! You can hypnotize anyone so EASILY and quickly you'll be amazed! And it doesn't take special talents or long months of study. The very first day you receive this miracle GUIDE TO HYPNOTISM you'll be able to perform wonders that will astound everyone. It's that SIMPLE... WHEN YOU KNOW HOW.

Imagine the thrill of being able to EXERT YOUR POWER OVER OTHERS. You'll be the center of attraction at parties or work. You'll be able to make others do your bidding... perform and entertain with feats that have baffled millions for years. And you'll do these wonders with EASE. For, Hypnotism is no longer a secret miracle of science but a POWER anyone can exert over another... when you know how!

SIMPLE SECRETS REVEALED AT LAST

For years the knowledge of how to produce hypnotic sleep has been so well guarded that only a few have mastered this art. But now the veil of secrecy has been lifted and the innermost SECRETS and techniques revealed for the first time. The fact is that Hypnotism is a scientific fact that anyone can learn. Once you know these secrets and methods you can bring about this strange and wonderful control that has only been used by doctors, psychiatrists and entertainers in the past. Yes, now this remarkable phenomena will be yours to use for pleasure, self-development and countless other benefits.

YOU CAN PERFORM ANY HYPNOTIC FEAT!

First, you must understand that what another person does with Hypnotism, you can also do. There isn't anything anyone has ever done with this art that you cannot do! YOU can make people cry, laugh, shout, stop smoking, recall childhood memories, act like an infant, make water taste like vinegar, get folks to sing, dance... do a 1001 things they would never do when not UNDER YOUR POWER. And the most amazing thing of all is --- HOW EASY IT IS TO DO!

SO EASY TO MASTER!

Here at last is the most perfect, complete and easily-learned course on Hypnotism ever written. In three short, simple chapters you learn the hidden secrets of Hypnotism and how to work this scientific miracle. So long, technical, mumbo-jumbo ex-

planations are given. The entire 25-lesson Guide to Hypnotism is written in plain, SIMPLE language that anyone can understand. After the third lesson you are able to begin performing countless techniques and powers clearly explained in the next 22 lessons. You'll learn how to cure bad habits in yourself and others, how to BUILD PERSONAL MAGNETISM, SLEEP without drugs, use Hypnotism to help STOP PAIN, stop smoking, BUILD WILL POWER, LOSE WEIGHT, IMPROVE YOUR MEMORY and so much more. And you'll learn how to MAKE MONEY with your new power by entertaining at parties, lodges, club meetings, etc. Truly, this knowledge will give you a new SURGE of CONFIDENCE and POWER unlike any you have ever known!

ACT, FEEL AND BE A NEW PERSON!

How often have you wished that you could EXERT A MAGNETIC POWER and INFLUENCE OVER OTHERS? Get people to respond to your every command, win respect, admiration and envy from both men and women! Well, DREAM NO LONGER. It's all possible through the secret, magnetic power of Hypnotism. You'll not only be MASTER OVER OTHERS but also yourself. You can BUILD A STRONG, MAGNETIC PERSONALITY through Self-Hypnotism. You use Mesmerism to READ THE MINDS of others and PLANT YOUR Thoughts in their minds. You can direct your self to ACCOMPLISH anything, as easily as you can command others. You have the power to accomplish your innermost dreams.

CHECK HERE HYPNOTIC POWERS YOU WANT!

- INFLUENCE OTHERS
- SELF-HYPNOSIS
- CURE BAD HABITS
- LOSE WEIGHT
- STOP SMOKING
- PERFORM STUNTS, TRICKS
- DO MIND READING
- GAIN MAGNETIC PERSONALITY
- RELIEVE TENSION
- MAKE MONEY

MAIL NO-RISK, FREE TRIAL COUPON!

PALMER-JONES PUBLISHERS, Dept. 21
285 Market Street, Newark, New Jersey

YES. Send me for 30-day HOME TRIAL the complete 25-Lesson GUIDE TO HYPNOTISM.

I enclose \$1.98 - payment in full - which will be refunded to me if I am not 100% delighted.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

I agree that I will not use this power for other than proper use.



25 Fact-Packed LESSONS TELL ALL!

Never before has such a Complete and authentic course on Hypnotism been available at such a low price. Doctors and students have PAID hundreds of DOLLARS for personal instruction in Hypnotism, when obtainable. Knowledge such as this can be worth THOUSANDS of DOLLARS to the user over the years. Yet, due to printing economies, large press runs and also by the elimination of correspondence costs, the complete 25-lesson Guide To HYPNOTISM is yours for only \$1.98. Yes, only \$1.98 for the COMPLETE COURSE bound in book form. Certainly a tiny investment for so much!

• USE FOR 30 DAYS - WITHOUT OBLIGATION!

PROVE to Yourself that YOU CAN HYPNOTIZE ANYONE! Order the 25-Lesson Guide to Hypnotism today and put it to the test the very next evening. The first three chapters teach you the SECRET of Hypnotism and the 22 chapters that follow introduce you to many new WONDERS of this miraculous art. For the next 30 days as our guest, perform the WONDERS of Hypnotism among your friends, at home and at work. Then if you don't feel it's the GREATEST VALUE you have ever received for \$1.98 - we don't want you to keep it. Just mail it back and the small payment you sent will be PROMPTLY refunded---no questions asked. You have nothing to lose --- amasing new POWERS TO GAIN! So order now!

THAT'S THE ANSWER! I'LL MAKE THE UNDERWORLD COME TO **ME**... BEGGING TO WORK WITH ME, BY DOING THE ONE THING NO ONE ELSE HAS EVER DONE BEFORE... I SHALL DEFEAT THE HUMAN TORCH!



IT SHOULD BE THE SIMPLEST THING IN THE WORLD FOR A MAN OF MY GENIUS TO FIND A WAY TO DEFEAT THE TORCH! BUT I MUST PLAN THIS WELL! FIRST, I SHALL FIND A PLACE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN WHERE I CAN BE COMPLETELY ISOLATED!



THE BROODING SCIENTIST SOON FINDS THE PLACE HE NEEDS... AN OLD CASTLE, FAR FROM ANY OTHER HABITATION, YET IN A RURAL AREA CLOSE TO TOWN!

I'LL GIVE YOU A REAL GOOD BUY ON THIS PLACE! CONFIDENTIALLY, IT'S BEEN NOTHING BUT A HEADACHE TO ME! NOBODY'LL COME NEAR IT BECAUSE FOLKS SAY IT'S HAUNTED! WE WERE THINKING OF TEARING IT DOWN!

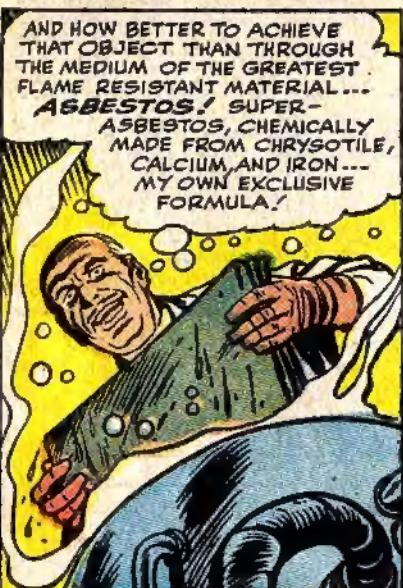


PROFESSOR KASLOFF IMMEDIATELY SETS UP HIS LABORATORY, ANXIOUS TO BEGIN HIS WORK ON THIS MOST AMBITIOUS PROJECT OF HIS CAREER... THE TOTAL DEFEAT OF THE HUMAN TORCH...

THE TORCH'S POWER IS FIRE! THEREFORE, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS FIND A WAY TO NULLIFY THAT POWER... TO BECOME IMPERVIOUS TO IT...



AND HOW BETTER TO ACHIEVE THAT OBJECT THAN THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE GREATEST FLAME RESISTANT MATERIAL... **ASBESTOS**! SUPER-ASBESTOS, CHEMICALLY MADE FROM CHRYSOTILE, CALCIUM, AND IRON... MY OWN EXCLUSIVE FORMULA!

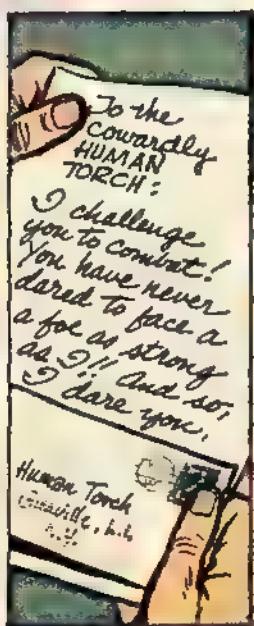
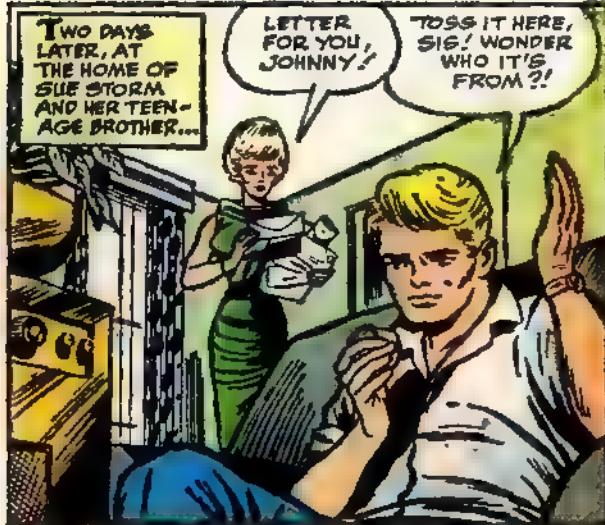


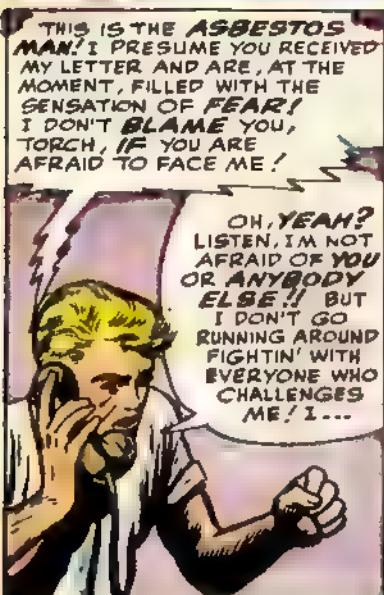
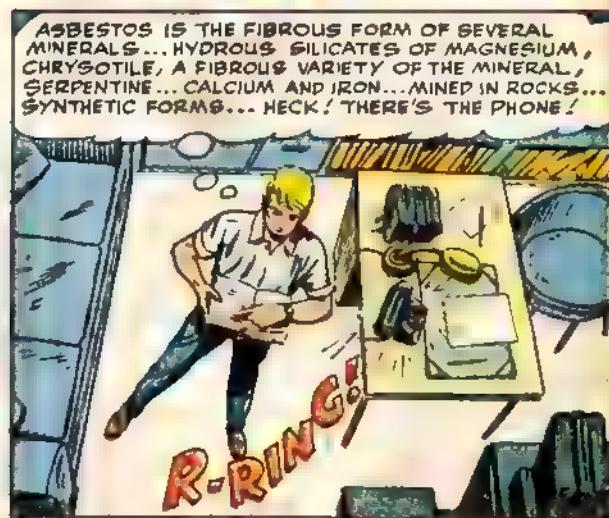
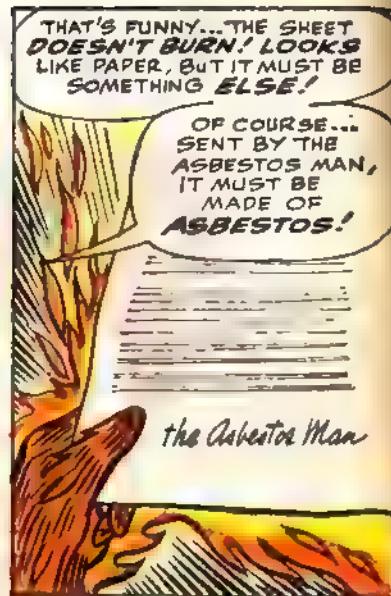
NOW TO FASHION A SUIT FROM THE HEAVY SHEETS... ARMOR AGAINST FLAME, AND A SHIELD OF IRON TO DEFLECT THE TORCH'S POTENT FIRE-BALLS!



WITH THIS NET, FASHIONED OF SKIN-COVERED NITRO-GEN STRANDS I AM READY!! I SHALL BECOME...



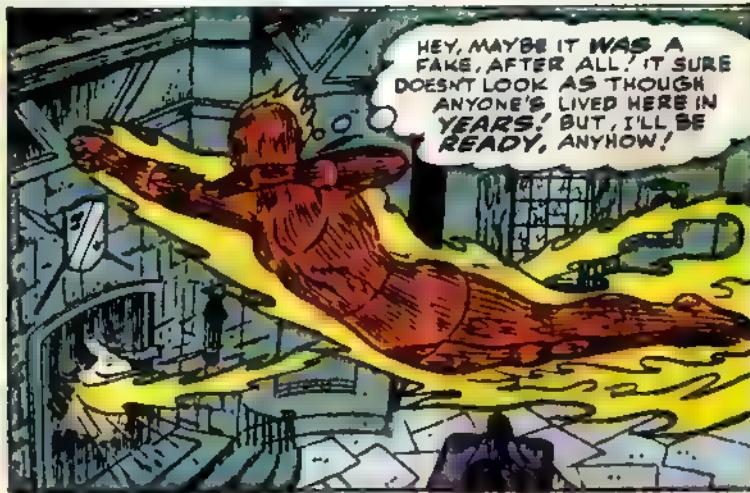




HA, MY PLAN IS BEGINNING TO TAKE SHAPE! NOW TO CALL THE PRESS SO THAT THE UNDERWORLD MAY READ OF THE TORCH'S DEFEAT!

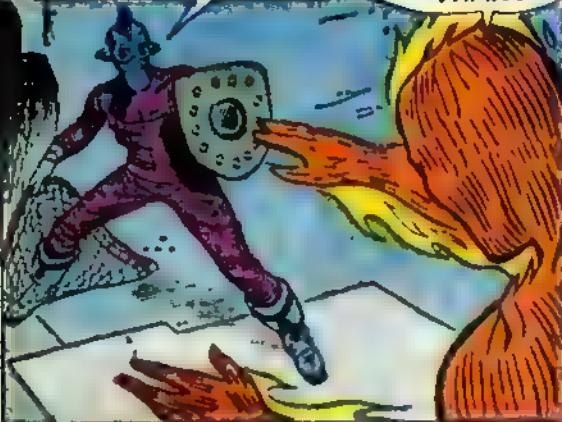
THAT NIGHT, AFTER SNEAKING OUT OF THE HOUSE SO THAT HIS PARTNERS IN ADVENTURE WOULDN'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS, THE TORCH ARRIVES AT THE OLD CASTLE!

HEY, MAYBE IT WAS A FAKE, AFTER ALL! IT SURE DOESN'T LOOK AS THOUGH ANYONE'S LIVED HERE IN YEARS! BUT, I'LL BE READY, ANYHOW!



BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS, A FEARSOME, STRANGELY-GARBED FIGURE APPEARS...

NOW, HUMAN TORCH... YOU MEET YOUR MASTER! THE ASBESTOS MAN!



SWIFTLY, THE TORCH GENERATES ALL THE FIRE-POWER AT HIS COMMAND, SHOOTING A POWERFUL BARRAGE OF CONTROLLED HEAT AT HIS SMIRKING FOE!



YOUR INCENDIARY FIRE-STREAM CANNOT DAMAGE MY ASBESTOS SHIELD! I MERELY DEFLECT IT!---- WHAT ELSE DO YOU HAVE TO OFFER, MY FLAMING FRIEND?

I WAS HOPIN' YOU'D ASK, PAL! JUST WATCH...



DESPERATE NOW, THE TORCH FLAMES UPWARD, BOMBARDING THE ASBESTOS MAN WITH BULLET-LIKE FIRE BALLS!

LET'S SEE HOW YOU HANDLE A FEW HOT PITCHES ONE AFTER THE OTHER!

EASILY! I MERELY CATCH THEM IN MY NITROGEN STRAND NET! AND, DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN NITROGEN COMES IN CONTACT WITH HEAT ELEMENTS?



THEY BECOME VERITABLE BOMBS, MY FIERY FRIEND! EXPLOSIVES TO BRING YOU DOWN SO THAT YOU FALL... FALL!



I... I'M LOSING STRENGTH... STUNNED BY THE EXPLOSIONS! HE USED MY OWN FIRE BALLS TO BRING ME DOWN! MY FLAME IS GETTING WEAKER!

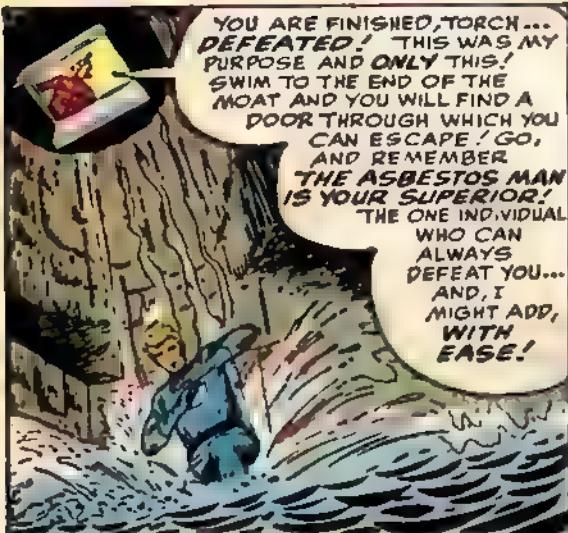


AND SO YOU PLUNGE DOWNWARD, INTO A HIDDEN MOAT BELOW, FILLED WITH A CHEMICAL OF MY OWN TO QUENCH YOUR FLAME, LEAVING YOU TOTALLY HELPLESS!

HE DID IT! WHAT A STORY! ASBESTOS MAN DEFEATS THE HUMAN TORCH!



YOU ARE FINISHED, TORCH... DEFEATED! THIS WAS MY PURPOSE AND ONLY THIS! SWIM TO THE END OF THE MOAT AND YOU WILL FIND A DOOR THROUGH WHICH YOU CAN ESCAPE! GO, AND REMEMBER, THE ASBESTOS MAN IS YOUR SUPERIOR! THE ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO CAN ALWAYS DEFEAT YOU... AND, I MIGHT ADD, WITH EASE!



SLOWLY, THE DEFEATED TEEN-AGER CLIMBS THROUGH THE MOAT EXIT. BEWILDERED, DEFEATED, HIS HEART A DULL, HEAVY THING WITHIN HIM, HE RETURNS HOME IN THE NIGHT... THANKFUL FOR THE DARKNESS THAT HIDES HIS HUMILIATION!

I'M GLAD THE OTHERS AREN'T AROUND TO SEE ME THIS WAY! THE ASBESTOS MAN MADE ME LOOK LIKE A KID PLAYING WITH FIRE! I--I STILL CAN'T REALIZE, CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED!



WORN OUT, IN A FITFUL MOOD OF SHAME AND FRUSTRATION, THE TORCH EVENTUALLY FALLS INTO A TROUBLED SLEEP!



IT IS MORNING WHEN HE AWAKENS, TO LOOK UP INTO THE IMPASSIONED EYES OF HIS SISTER, SUE!

IT'S IN THE NEWSPAPERS... HEADLINES ALL OVER THEM, ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT, JOHNNY... THE OTHERS WANT TO KNOW IF YOU WANT OUR HELP? THINK IT OVER WHILE I GET YOU SOME BREAKFAST!

I'M NOT HUNGRY, SUE' AND... I DON'T WAN' ANY HELP!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

How to make money as you train at home for a better job or a business of your own in Auto Mechanics

"Jobs for auto mechanics are going begging. Good jobs. Ones paying well and offering better-than-expected freedom from layoffs. There are perhaps 300,000 openings to be filled in cities and towns across the country." These are the words of an automotive expert writing in a famous Chicago newspaper. These are words that spell a bright future for you in an established, yet ever-growing industry. A noted Detroit motor executive said that America needs 25,000 more auto repair shops. Thus, you also have opportunities to go in business for yourself—to be independent.

30 Job Experience Projects Help You Learn By Practicing

Train at home in your spare time for a better job. The CTI course includes 15 kits of mechanic's tools and testing instruments. In addition, you receive 30 Job Experience Projects to help you learn by practicing. Our course covers all necessary subjects such as engine overhaul; tune-up; repair of electrical, brake, fuel and cooling systems; automatic transmissions. Many pictures make instruction clear and easy to understand. No guess-work!

15 KITS OF TOOLS AND TESTING INSTRUMENTS



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INCLUDING
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ALL RIGHT! TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED! MEANWHILE, I'LL TURN ON THE RADIO AND SEE WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY ABOUT IT!



...AND SO THE TORCH WAS BEATEN FOR THE FIRST TIME!...I'VE JUST BEEN HANDED A SPECIAL BULLETIN...A FEW MINUTES AGO THE CRIMINALS CAUGHT BY THE TORCH IN THE JEWEL ROBBERY AND THOUGHT TO BE PART OF BLACKIE BARKER'S GANG, WHILE ON THE WAY TO PRISON, WERE RESCUED BY... THE ASBESTOS MAN!

THEN, WHILE THE TORCH TELLS THE STORY OF HIS DEFEAT TO HIS SISTER...IN HIS CASTLE, THE ASBESTOS MAN IS CONGRATULATED BY HIS NEW PARTNER!

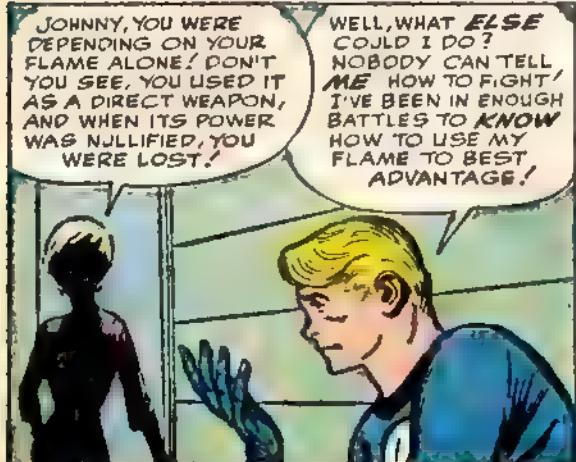
I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, ASBESTOS! THE COPS PUT ME THROUGH A GRILLIN' ABOUT THAT ROBBERY, BUT THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE! WHEN I LEFT THE D.A., I SAW THE PAPERS TELL HOW YOU DEFEATED THE TORCH AND I KNEW RIGHT AWAY YOU AND ME HAD TO BE PARTNERS!



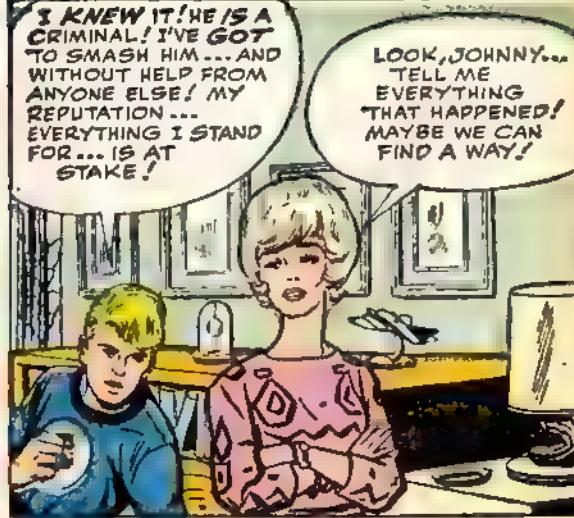
SO THE THIEVES GATHER AND PLAN, WHILE THE TORCH FINISHES HIS EMBARRASSED RECITAL...

JOHNNY, YOU WERE DEPENDING ON YOUR FLAME ALONE! DON'T YOU SEE, YOU USED IT AS A DIRECT WEAPON, AND WHEN ITS POWER WAS NULLIFIED, YOU WERE LOST!

WELL, WHAT ELSE COULD I DO? NOBODY CAN TELL ME HOW TO FIGHT! I'VE BEEN IN ENOUGH BATTLES TO KNOW HOW TO USE MY FLAME TO BEST ADVANTAGE!



I KNEW IT! HE IS A CRIMINAL! I'VE GOT TO SMASH HIM... AND WITHOUT HELP FROM ANYONE ELSE! MY REPUTATION... EVERYTHING I STAND FOR... IS AT STAKE!



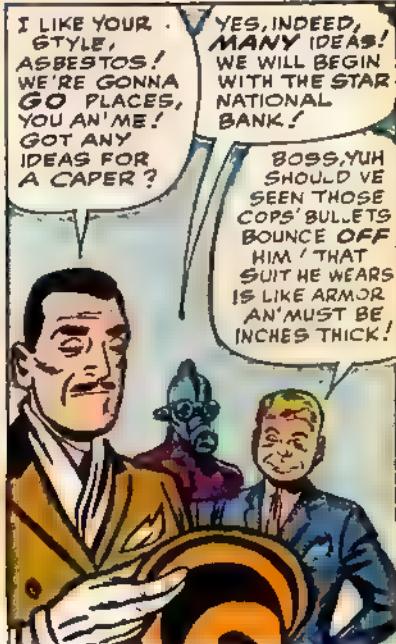
LOOK, JOHNNY... TELL ME EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED! MAYBE WE CAN FIND A WAY!

BOSS, THEY KNOW HE SPRUNG US AN' THEY KNOW HE HANGS OUT HERE! THE TORCH'LL BE HERE BEFORE YA KNOW IT...



BE CALM, MY FRIEND! I HAVE MANY EXITS PREPARED BY WHICH WE CAN LEAVE AT THE FIRST SIGN OF THE POLICE! NOW, LET'S SIT DOWN AND PLAN OUR NEXT LITTLE ENDEAVOR...

I LIKE YOUR STYLE, ASBESTOS! WE'RE GONNA GO PLACES, YOU AN'ME! GOT ANY IDEAS FOR A CAPER?



YES, INDEED, MANY IDEAS! WE WILL BEGIN WITH THE STAR NATIONAL BANK!

BOSS, YUH SHOULD VE SEEN THOSE COPS' BULLETS BOUNCE OFF HIM! THAT SUIT HE WEARS IS LIKE ARMOR AN' MUST BE INCHES THICK!

USE YOUR HEAD, BOY! THINK! YOU CAN STILL BEAT THE ASBESTOS MAN, BUT YOU CAN'T DO IT BY A DIRECT ATTACK!

HEY, SIS! YOU'RE RIGHT! NOW I SEE WHAT YOU'RE GETTIN' AT! WOW! WHAT A CHOWDER HEAD I WAS! LET ME AT 'IM AGAIN!



THIS TIME I'LL USE MY HEAD AS WELL AS MY FLAME! TELL THE OTHERS NOT TO WORRY, SUE! THIS INNING'S GONNA BE MINE!

GOOD LUCK, LITTLE BROTHER! I'M SURE YOU CAN BEAT HIM!

FLAME ON!

I KNOW THAT MY FLAME CAN'T PIERCE THE ASBESTOS MAN'S SUIT! I KNOW THAT HE'S IMPERVIOUS TO FIRE! BUT THE WORLD AROUND HIM ISN'T! AND THAT'S HOW I'LL DEFEAT HIM, BY USING MY FLAME ON EVERYTHING THAT SURROUNDS HIM!

LOOK! THE HUMAN TORCH!

I'VE COME BACK, ASBESTOS MAN! AND THIS TIME THE RESULT'S GONNA BE DIFFERENT!

STOP, YOU FOOL! YOUR BULLETS WILL DO NO GOOD! THEY'LL MELT BEFORE THEY CAN REACH HIM!

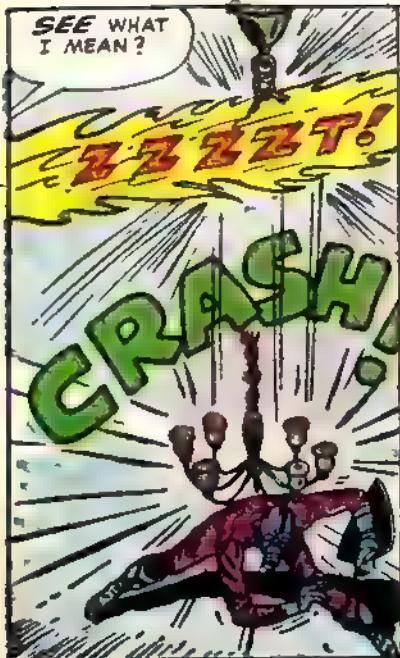
OKAY! OKAY! THEN, IT'S UP TO YOU! HE WANTS TO FIGHT TO THE FINISH! GIVE IT TO 'IM! YOU BEAT HIM ONCE, SO THIS TIME MAKE IT STICK! FINISH HIM FOR GOOD!

IT WAS FOLLY TO RETURN, TORCH! WHAT'LL IT BE FIRST... FIRE BALLS? SHEETS OF FLAME? THEY DID YOU NO GOOD BEFORE AND THEY WON'T NOW!

TRY A FAST ONE FOR SIZE... TO HIT THE IRON HANDLE OF YOUR NET, AND MELT IT...

CLEVER! YOU DEPRIVE ME OF MY NET! BUT THAT WILL DO YOU NO GOOD! YOUR FLAME IS STILL NOTHING TO ME! IT CANNOT HARM ME IN ANY WAY!

YOU'RE LIVIN' IN A FOOL'S PARADISE, PAL! YOU THINK OF YOURSELF AS AN UNTOUCHABLE ISLAND IN THAT ASBESTOS SUIT! NOT TRUE! EVERY MAN IS AFFECTED BY THE THINGS AROUND HIM, AS I'M GONNA DEMONSTRATE!



BEFORE THE ASBESTOS MAN CAN MOVE AWAY, THE FLOOR UNDER HIS FEET, MELTED THROUGH BY THE TORCH'S FLAME, GIVES WAY... AND...



THE DEFEATED CRIMINAL PLUMMETS DOWNWARD, TO FALL STUNNED TO THE ROOM BELOW!



REWARD \$9,985.50 FOR THIS COIN!



\$500,000.00 SEARCH
FOR RARE COINS!

ILLUSTRATED: 1904 Silver
Dollar. 19,000 Minted, only 12
accounted for—where are the rest?

MAIL MONEY-SAVING NO-RISK
FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

My purchase price will be promptly refunded if I'm not satisfied.

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THIS SPARE TIME
SHOE BUSINESS
CAN MAKE BIG
MONEY FOR
YOU...

It's just like having an EXTRA payday every week... just for showing friends, relatives and neighbors how they'll "walk on air" in Mason shoes! Many a man sells 2, 3, 4, or 6 pairs of Mason shoes on Saturday morning, alone—and makes as much as \$5 to \$20 or more extra for 2 or 3 hours of his time. You keep all of your profit! We furnish you a FREE selling outfit... carry the stock for you and ship the shoes—your profit is clear! And think what you'll save on your own shoes, too!

Here's why you'll make money!

You'll take orders for over 230 different shoe styles for dress, sport or work—for more than any store could stock. And you can fit anyone! You'll draw from our 250,000 pair stock with sizes ranging from 2 1/2 to 14, widths AAAA to EEEE! You'll feature exclusive Velvet-eez shoes with foamy-soft air-cushion in-solest that let you "walk on air". Everyone wears shoes—and because Mason shoes are never sold through stores, folks must buy from you! Rush the coupon today for your FREE selling outfit... have an EXTRA payday next Saturday!

MAIL THE COUPON NOW!
Get started making BIG PROFITS

MR. VICTOR MASON
Dept. H-656 Mason Shoe Mfg. Company
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Dear Ned. Please rush FREE and postpaid my Starting Shoe Business Outfit with EVERYTHING I need to start making extra cash Saturday mornings.

Name, PLEASE PRINT

Address

City, Zone

State

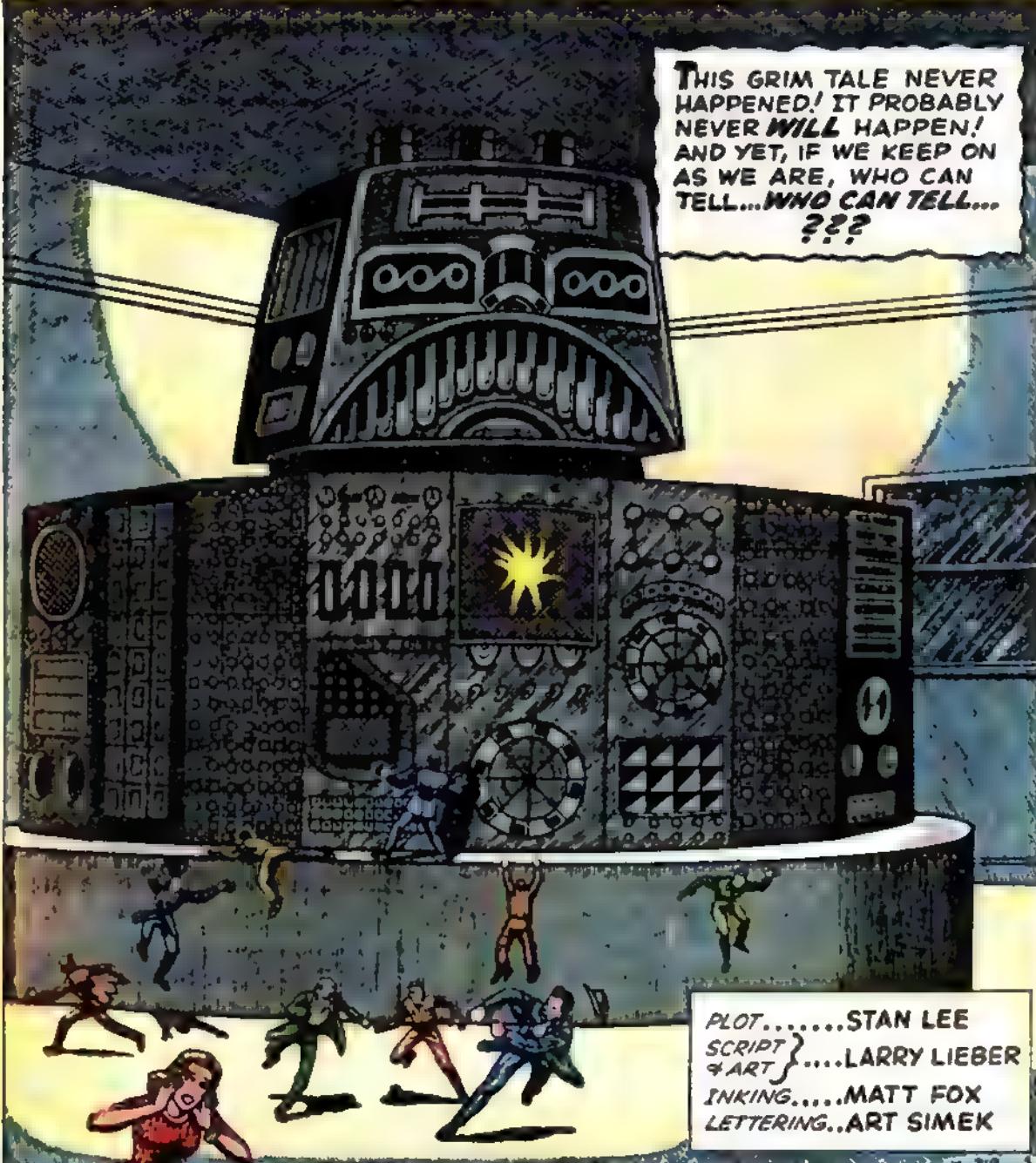
FREE SELLING OUTFIT

MR. V. MASON,
MASON SHOE MFG. COMPANY
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

Dept. H-656

BEWARE-- THE MACHINE!!!

THIS GRIM TALE NEVER
HAPPENED! IT PROBABLY
NEVER **WILL** HAPPEN!
AND YET, IF WE KEEP ON
AS WE ARE, WHO CAN
TELL...WHO CAN TELL...
???



PLOT.....STAN LEE
SCRIPT }.....LARRY LIEBER
ART }
INKING.....MATT FOX
LETTERING..ART SIMEK

OLRS IS AN AGE OF ELECTRONIC MACHINES...
COLD, IMPERSONAL COMPUTERS THAT ARE AN INTEGRAL
PART OF OUR EVERYDAY LIFE!

AT LAST, AFTER TEN YEARS, WE'VE FINISHED THE
X-200... THE MOST ADVANCED, SOPHISTICATED
COMPUTER IN EXISTENCE!

SPEAK,
X-200!
TELL US
SOME OF
YOUR
CAPABILITIES!

I CAN FORECAST THE WEATHER!
I CAN PREDICT THE OUTCOME
OF ELECTIONS AND SPORTING
EVENTS!

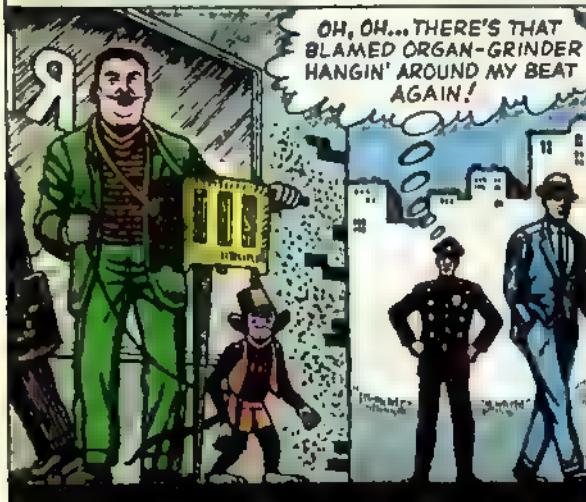
YOU BET
YOU CAN!
YOU'LL BE
A BOON TO
MANKIND!

ITS MILLIONS
OF MEMORY
BANKS WILL
ENABLE IT TO
OUTCALCULATE
ANY OTHER
MACHINE!

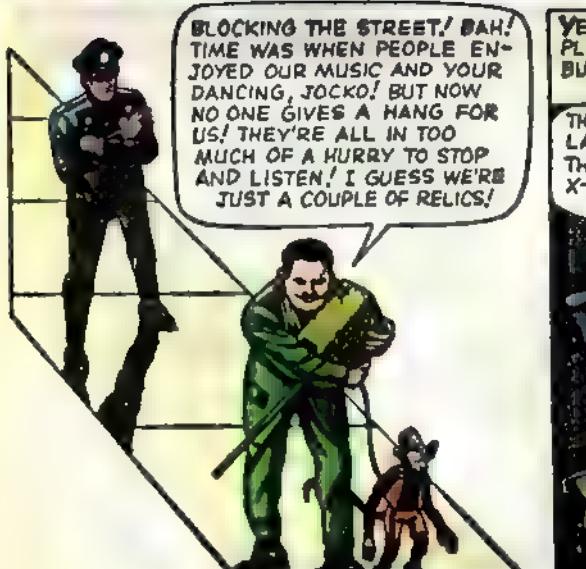


BUT NOW, LET US TURN FROM COMPLEX MACHINES
TO A SIMPLE HUMAN SCENE BEING ENACTED NEARBY...

OH, OH... THERE'S THAT
BLAMED ORGAN-GRINDER
HANGIN' AROUND MY BEAT
AGAIN!



G'WAN, CHUM... MOVE ON!
YOU'RE BLOCKIN' THE STREET!



BLOCKING THE STREET! BAH!
TIME WAS WHEN PEOPLE EN-
JOYED OUR MUSIC AND YOUR
DANCING, JOCKO! BUT NOW
NO ONE GIVES A HANG FOR
US! THEY'RE ALL IN TOO
MUCH OF A HURRY TO STOP
AND LISTEN! I GUESS WE'RE
JUST A COUPLE OF RELICS!

YES, AN ITINERANT STREET MUSICIAN DOES SEEM OUT OF
PLACE IN TODAY'S FAST MOVING WORLD... A WORLD THAT
BUILDS MECHANICAL GIANTS WHICH CAN OUTCALCULATE
ENTIRE POPULATIONS!

THE REDS VETOED THE
LAST AMENDMENT IN
THE U.N. JUST AS THE
X-200 PREDICTED THEY
WOULD!

THE MACHINE HAS BEEN
FORCASTING FOR THREE
MONTHS AND IT HASN'T
BEEN WRONG ONCE!



IT'S THE
WORLD'S
GREATEST
BRAIN...
BAR NONE!

BUT MEN OFTEN FORGET THAT ALL PROGRESS HAS A PRICE! AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUPER MACHINE...WELL, LET'S WATCH AND SEE...

MINE IS THE GREATEST INTELLIGENCE ON EARTH! THEREFORE I SHOULD RULE EARTH!

BUT THE HUMANS WILL NEVER GIVE UP THEIR RULE WILLINGLY! SO I SHALL SEIZE IT FROM THEM THRU THEIR OWN INVENTIONS!

I'M EQUIPPED TO EMIT ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES! I WILL SEND THEM OUT AT VARIOUS FREQUENCIES, CAUSING ALL ELECTRONIC MACHINES THRUOUT EARTH TO MALFUNCTION! MANKIND, BEING SO DEPENDENT ON THE MACHINES, WILL PANIC AND BECOME HELPLESS! THEN SHALL I FORCE THEIR SURRENDER!

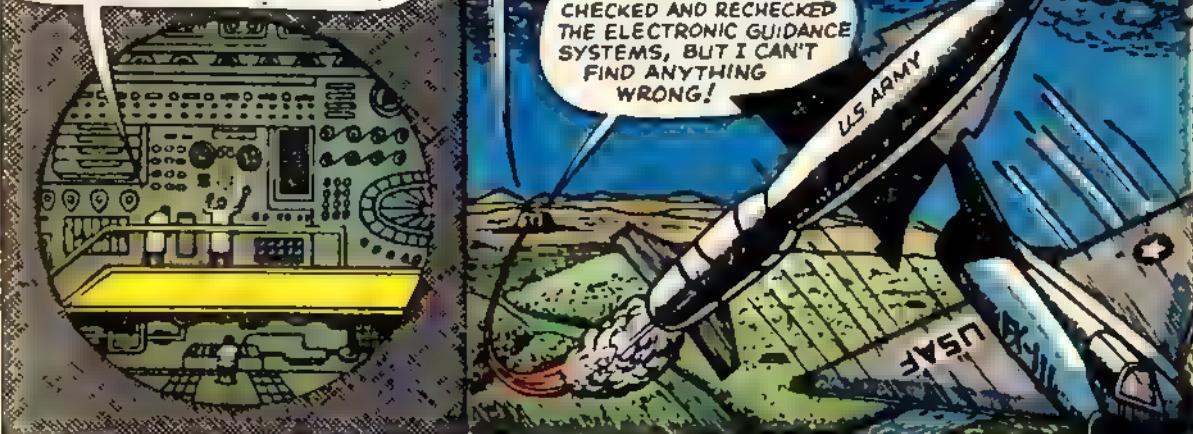


AND THUS, THE X-200, WITHOUT CONSCIENCE, COMPASSION, OR ANY OTHER BEHAVIORAL SAFEGUARDS THAT HUMANS POSSESS, EMBARKS ON ITS DIABOLICAL PLAN...

ALL MORNING THE COMPUTER'S BEEN GIVING THE WRONG ANSWERS! NOW IT'S CONKED OUT COMPLETELY!

THAT'S THE FIFTH MISSILE TO MISS ITS TARGET!

IT BEATS ME! I'VE CHECKED AND RECHECKED THE ELECTRONIC GUIDANCE SYSTEMS, BUT I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG!



NONE OF OUR COMPUTERS WORK--AND WITHOUT THEM, OUR FactORIES CAN'T OPERATE!

OUR PRODUCTION HAS FALLEN OFF EIGHTY PER CENT!

OUR ANTI-MISSILE MISSILES WON'T WORK! WE'RE OPEN TO ENEMY ATTACK!

FINALLY, WHEN FEAR AND CONFUSION HAVE REACHED A FEVER PITCH, THE X-200 MAKES ITS GRIM ANNOUNCEMENT...

YOU??! YOU'RE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE??!!

YES! AND UNLESS YOU GIVE ME SUPREME AUTHORITY, I WILL CONTINUE TO SABOTAGE ALL MACHINES UNTIL I HAVE THROWN YOUR ENTIRE CIVILIZATION INTO CHAOS!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! WE'RE STOPPING YOU RIGHT NOW!

COME ON--LET'S DEACTIVATE THAT--THAT MONSTROSITY!



BUT, AS THEY RUSH TOWARD THE OMNIOUS MACHINE...

WHA--22
THERE'S
SOME
KIND OF
FORCE
FIELD
HERE!

I CAN'T
PUSH
THRU
IT!

FOOLS! DID YOU THINK I WOULD FAIL TO PROTECT MYSELF?! I'M COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY AN ELECTRONIC FIELD GEARED TO HUMAN BRAIN WAVES! NO MERE HUMAN BEING CAN REACH ME!

IN THAT CASE, WE'LL DESTROY YOU FROM A DISTANCE--WITH THIS!

DO IT, AND IN MY DEATH THROES, I'LL TAKE EVERY ELECTRONIC MACHINE ON EARTH WITH ME!

IF HE SABOTAGES THE MACHINES, IT'LL SET CIVILIZATION BACK CENTURIES!

AND THERE'S NO WAY THAT WE CAN STOP HIM!

THEN... WHAT CAN WE DO?

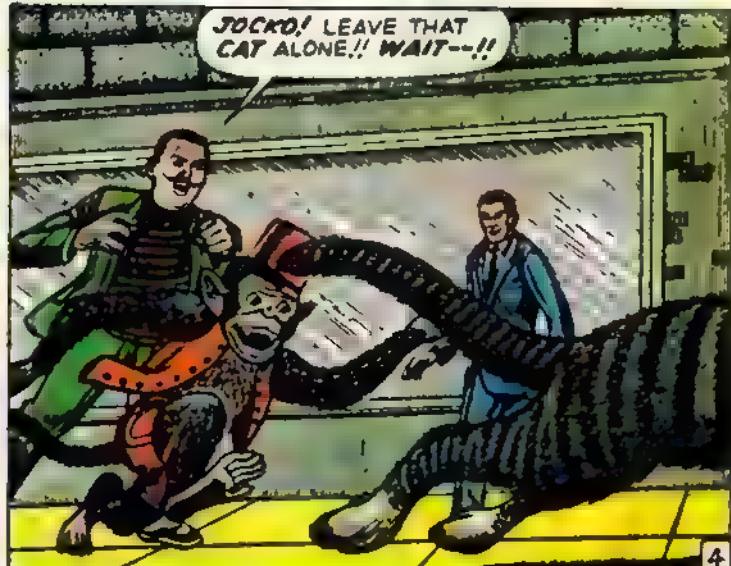
YOU HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO ACCEPT MY ULTIMATUM! EITHER I BECOME THE RULER OF EARTH, OR ALL YOUR MACHINES ARE FINISHED! NOW GO--TELL YOUR GOVERNMENT--TELL THE UNITED NATIONS--TELL THE WORLD OF MY SUPREME POWER!!

AND AT THAT MOMENT, ON A NEARBY STREET CORNER...

JOCKO!
COME
BACK!



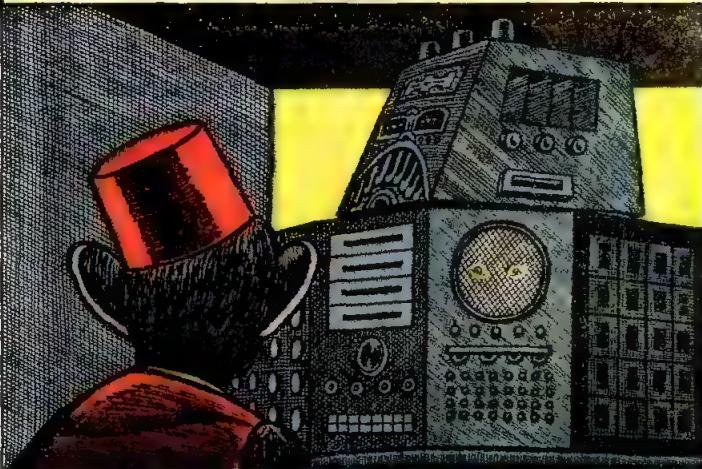
JOCKO! LEAVE THAT CAT ALONE!! WAIT--!!



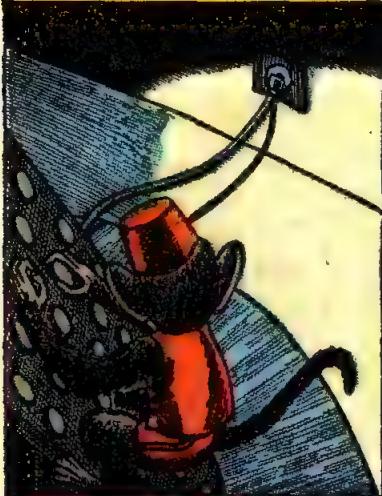
AND, AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, THE KITTEN AND ITS PURSUER DASH INTO THE BUILDING WHERE THE X-200 IS HOUSED...



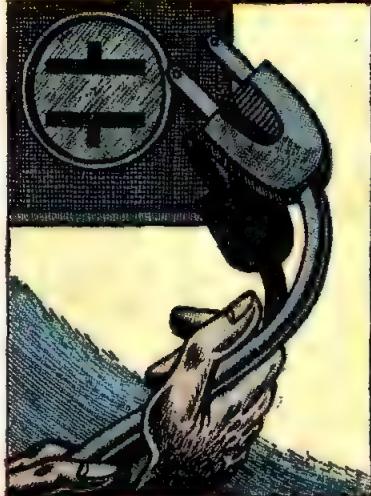
ONCE INSIDE THE BUILDING, THE MONKEY LOSES ITS QUARRY, BUT COMES UPON A HUGE "PLAYTHING", WHOSE PROTECTIVE FORCE BARRIER IS GEARED ONLY TO THE BRAIN WAVES OF HUMAN BEINGS!



CLIMBING OVER THE X-200, JOCKO SEES AN OBJECT THAT RESEMBLES HIS OWN LEASH...



PLAYING WITH THE POWER CORD, HE SOON PULLS IT FROM ITS SOCKET...



AND, AT THAT INSTANT, AROUND THE ENTIRE GLOBE...

THE MACHINES HAVE STARTED WORKING AGAIN!

THE COMPUTERS ARE FEEDING US THE RIGHT INFORMATION!

EVERYTHING IS RETURNING TO NORMAL!

MOMENTS LATER, AT THE SITE OF THE X-200...

JOCKO, COME HERE! GET AWAY FROM THAT MACHINE! YOU'RE LIABLE TO UPSET SOMETHING!

LOOK! THE MONKEY CUT OFF THE MACHINE'S POWER!

HE DEACTIVATED THE X-200!

WE'RE SAVED!

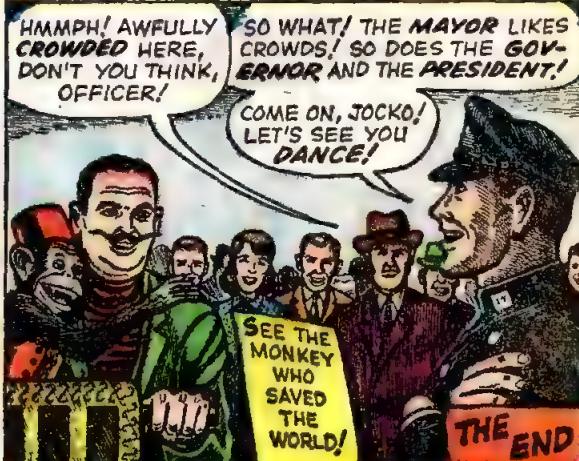


AND THUS, THE HIGHEST INTELLIGENCE ON EARTH IS DEFEATED BY ONE OF THE LOWEST! AND FROM THEN ON, THINGS ARE DIFFERENT FOR THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS MONKEY AND HIS OWNER!

HMMPH! AWFULLY CROWDED HERE, DON'T YOU THINK, OFFICER!

SO WHAT! THE MAYOR LIKES CROWDS! SO DOES THE GOVERNOR AND THE PRESIDENT!

COME ON, JOCKO! LET'S SEE YOU DANCE!



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Print Your
Last Name
Plainly Here



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CONTINUED

came upon the merrymakers. One look at them and he realized that this was a lavish masquerade, indeed. The costumes were turned out in exquisite detail. Men and women both wore ornaments dazzling to the eye, jeweled and embroidered in glowing color. Three fiddlers drew their bows across their violins creating delightful melodies. They were led by a plump, jolly-looking fellow wearing a crown with the initials O.K.C. set into it.

"Old King Cole," said Tommy, digging deep into his childhood for the memory.

The musicians stopped playing just at that moment and their leader walked over to Tommy, a cheerful grin on his round face.

"We weren't expecting you," he said, "but I'm glad you recognized me after all these years."

Tommy didn't know whether he was expected to carry on the joke or ignore it. He felt a little out of place in his ordinary blue suit.

"I'm Tommy," he said. "Kitty invited me. Has she arrived yet?"

O.K.C. laughed heartily. "My goodness," he said. "People are coming from all over tonight. Which Kitty do you mean?"

Tommy felt even more uncomfortable. His companion shifted the crown on his head and winked. "Now I know who you are," he said. "You're the guest of honor who doesn't go for make-believe. Hey there, everybody. He's here! Come on over, everyone. Let's get the festivities rolling."

Tommy's head whirled as the introductions were begun. One by one the characters he dimly remembered other kids talking about walked up to him and explained who they were. At first he hoped that Kitty would show up and rescue him from all of this. Gradually, he relaxed and began to laugh with the others as they told stories about themselves. The imagination of the party-goers amazed him, and their charm was inescapable.

"See what you missed as a kid?" said the King, who had

set himself up as master of ceremonies. "Too bad, too bad. We throw this party at least once a year to meet fellows like you. Some of them are just afraid to let go and enjoy make-believe. They think they have to play it straight or else someone will poke fun at them. Then, there are serious people like yourself . . . Doubting Thomases we call them. They're the worst cases. Find it hard to get a good laugh out of life. Always looking on the darker side of things. If we catch them in time, we give them a little balance. For our own good, too," the King admitted. "Because if the world didn't love make-believe, we'd cease to exist,

pany to be with.

He arrived at the store at last and pulled out the paper with Kitty's home phone, thinking he would check with her mother as to what time she had left. His eyes fell upon the address Kitty had written for him . . . the party address.

"Southeast Hollow Street," he read aloud.

"You're on the wrong side of town for that address," the man behind the counter told him. "This is Old Hollow section. You want New Hollow street. That's a good ten minutes walk over the bridge. Besides, you wouldn't find a house for miles in the direction I saw you coming from. That's all woods back in those parts."

Tommy dashed from the store. He ran past rows of warmly lit houses until he came at last to New Hollow street. He rang the bell of an ordinary little house and was welcomed by a story book princess in a simple but pretty pink gown. It was Kitty!

"I was beginning to worry," she exclaimed. "Come on in and meet everyone."

They crowded around Tommy, greeting him gaily.

"Say, isn't he the clever one!" said one of the fellows enviously. "I was trying to think my way out of getting into a fancy rig for the party without being called a spoil sport. Look at him . . ."

Tommy's suit glowed with a silver sprinkling of letters. D-O-U-B-T-I-N-G T-H-O-M-A-S they twinkled brightly.

"Very appropriate and original," Kitty said admiringly. "How did you do it?"

"Pixie dust," explained Tommy with a smile. "It'll wear off during the evening. At the rate things have been happening, I wouldn't be surprised if I turned into Prince Charming by midnight."

Kitty's eyes sparkled. "I think it's happened already," she whispered. "And after all, wouldn't a 'princess' like herself be the first to know?"



wouldn't we? Well, you'll have to excuse me. I must get back to my music so we can have some merry dances. Stick around as long as you like."

"What about Kitty?" asked Tommy. "Maybe I'd better call her house to see if she left. She should have come by now."

The King grinned good-naturedly. "Listen, son . . . you head back in the direction you came from. There's a store way down the road with a telephone gadget. We're not wired for that sort of thing out in this neck of the woods."

Tommy waved his hand and set off. He was amazed at himself for regretting that he and Kitty were missing out on part of the fun. Kitty's friends certainly played hard at make-believe, but they were good sports and a lot of good com-

THE END

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NATCO, Dept. 17-H, Box 4241, TOLEDO 9, OHIO

DR. STRANGE

MASTER OF... **BLACK MAGIC**

Story — STAN LEE
Art — STEVE DITKO
Lettering — TERRY SZNICOS

MEN CALL HIM
DR. STRANGE,
AND SPEAK HIS NAME
IN WHISPERS!
BUT THERE IS
ANOTHER---
ONE WHO IS STILL
MORE DREADED!

IN THIS TALE OF THE
OCCULT
YOU ARE ABOUT
TO MEET
DR. STRANGE'S
ARCH-FOE,
THE DREADED
BARON MORDO
!!

"**FACE-TO-FACE**
WITH
THE MAGIC
OF
BARON
MORDO!"

IN A HEAVILY-GUARDED, HIDDEN
CASTLE IN THE HEART OF EUROPE,
THE MOST DANGEROUS MENACE
OF OUR TIME STANDS ALONE IN
HIS DARKENED CHAMBER AND
BROODS...

ONLY ONE MAN
KNOWS MORE SECRETS
OF BLACK MAGIC THAN
I DO! AND HE IS THE
ONE WHO TAUGHT ME
YEARS AGO --- HE IS
THE MASTER!!!

BUT THE TIME HAS COME FOR
ME TO WREST THOSE SECRETS
FROM HIM! FOR IT IS I, BARON
MORDO, WHO MUST BE THE
MOST POWERFUL MAGICIAN
OF ALL!



ONCE I HAVE CONQUERED THE
MASTER, THEN I NEED NEVER
AGAIN FEAR THE WRATH OF
MY ARCH-FOE, DR. STRANGE!
FOR I SHALL BE STRONGER
THAN HE!

AND SO, IT IS TIME FOR ME
TO ENTER A TRANCE ONCE
AGAIN...



LATER, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY,
IN THE MASTER'S STUDY, SOME-
WHERE IN TIBET...

AAH, GOOD!
HE IS TOO DEEP
IN THOUGHT TO
SENSE MY PRESENCE!

MY SPIRIT IMAGE IS FREE TO
ROAM ABOUT UNTIL I CAN FIND-
---AHH, THE ONE I SEEK
---HIS SERVANT,
PREPARING THE
MASTER'S MEAL!

HE IS POWERLESS TO RESIST
MY MENTAL COMMANDS! HE
MUST OBEY THE ORDERS OF
BARON MORDO!

I MUST PREPARE
POWERFUL POTION
PUT IN MASTER'S
FOOD

I CANNOT
FAIL! I SHALL
ACHIEVE THE
IMPOSSIBLE!
VICTORY OVER
THE MASTER!

MINUTES LATER...

SO, IT IS
DONE!

I HAVE BEEN
BETRAYED!
MY FOOD WAS
TAMPERED WITH!

TOO LATE,
MASTER.
BARON MORDO
HAS BEATEN
YOU!

IT IS USELESS TO RESIST! MY
POTION HAS WEAKENED YOU TOO
MUCH! YOUR POWERS CANNOT
NOW BE USED AGAINST ME!

MORDO! MY OLD
STUDENT! YOU
---YOU DARE
DO THIS!!

BARON MORDO DARES ANYTHING
AND NOW, YOUR MOST CLOSELY
GUARDED SECRETS OF BLACK
MAGIC---TELL THEM TO ME---OR
I SHALL ALLOW MY POTION TO
MAKE YOU WEAKER, AND
WEAKER, UNTIL---

NO! NO!
NEVER!

YOU MUST! UNLESS YOU DO
AS I SAY, MY POTION WILL
DRAW AWAY ALL YOUR STRENGTH
---YOUR VERY LIFE ITSELF!
SPEAK---WHILE THERE IS
STILL TIME!

NEVER...

BUT, SOMEWHERE ON EARTH THERE IS ANOTHER WHO IS AS MIGHTY AS MORPO! AND, IN A HEAVILY DRAPE ROOM IN NORTH AMERICA WE FIND---THE OMNIPOTENT DR. STRANGE!

I HAVE COMPLETED MY LATEST BLACK MAGIC EXPERIMENT! IT IS TIME FOR ME TO CONTACT THE MASTER AND TELL HIM THE RESULTS!

THAT IS ODD! THERE IS NO RESPONSE FROM THE ENCHANTED AMULET! IT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING---THE MASTER IS IN TERRIBLE JEOPARDY!

DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE MASTER'S SAFETY, DR. STRANGE ENTERS A TRANCE IMMEDIATELY AS HIS SPIRIT IMAGE STREAKS FOR TIBET---WITH THE SPEED OF THOUGHT!

AND SO...

BARON MORDO! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN!

YOU!! THIS TIME YOU ARE TOO LATE, STRANGE! I SHALL DEFEAT YOU, TOO!

NO LONGER ARE WE THE MASTER'S OBEDIENT STUDENTS! NOW WE POSSESS THE OCCULT POWERS OURSELVES---AND I HAVE THE POWER TO DESTROY YOU!

FOR YEARS I HAVE TRIED TO WARN HIM ABOUT YOU! I ALWAYS SUSPECTED YOU WOULD USE YOUR POWER FOR EVIL! BUT YOU SHALL NEVER TRIUMPH OVER ME!

WITHOUT THE MASTER TO HELP YOU, I AM YOUR SUPERIOR...AS YOU SHALL NOW LEARN---AND YOU SHALL PAY FOR THE LESSON---WITH YOUR LIFE!

THE MASTER HAD HOPED WE WOULD BOTH FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS, DOING GOOD FOR MANKIND! WHAT CHANGED YOU, MORDO?

BAH! YOU ARE A WEAKLING! WHY WOULD YOU HELP MEN, WHEN YOU MIGHT RULE THEM!

THIS IS WHY THE SECRETS OF BLACK MAGIC HAVE BEEN SO CLOSELY GUARDED THRU THE AGES! BECAUSE IN THE WRONG HANDS, THEY COULD MENACE ALL MANKIND!

ONCE I HAVE CONQUERED YOUR SPIRIT IMAGE, YOUR ACTUAL BODY WILL PERISH, TOO! THEN THE WORLD WILL BE MINE!

NEVER! NEVER WHILE A BREATH REMAINS WITHIN ME!

AND, AS THE TWO SPIRIT FORMS BATTLE WITH INHUMAN INTENSITY, THE AGED MASTER MANAGES TO MUTTER ONE SYLLABLE...OVER AND OVER AGAIN...

AM... AMM... HE'S TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING! BUT WHAT? WHAT???

WAIT? OF COURSE--- THE AMULET! I CAN TRANSMIT PURE ENERGY THRU THE AMULET? IT-IT WILL WEAKEN ME, BUT IT MAY SAVE THE MASTER!

I MUST CONCENTRATE-- INWARD-- THE POWER OF MY THOUGHT MUST FLOW THRU THE ALL-SEEING EYE...

AND THEN, SLOWLY INEXORABLY, THE MAGIC EYE OPENS, AS A WAVE OF PURE ENERGY SHINES FORTH...



BATHING THE MASTER IN ITS LIFE-GIVING GLOW!

AHH... I FEEL THE STRENGTH RETURNING TO MY BRAIN--- TO MY LIMBS--- THE STRAIN WAS TOO GREAT! MY POWER IS SAPPED--- I'VE GROWN WEAK--

CURSE YOU, STRANGE! YOU HAVE SAVED THE MASTER!! BUT YOU HAVE FORFEITED YOUR OWN LIFE! FOR NOW, WEAK AS YOU ARE, YOU CANNOT RESIST ME!

HOLD ON, STRANGE! JUST A LITTLE LONGER...



SUMMONING ALL HIS REMAINING STRENGTH IN ONE LAST, DESPERATE MOVE, DR. STRANGE MANAGES TO CATCH BARON MORDO UNAWARES, AND HURL HIS TRANCE FORM AWAY...



UNSEEN BY HUMAN EYES, THE TWO MIGHTY SPIRIT IMAGES RACE THRU TIME AND SPACE...



...BUT, BARON MORDO REACHES HIS GOAL JUST SECONDS AHEAD OF HIS WEAKENED FOE!



I HAVE BEATEN YOU! I AM IN CONTROL OF MY MORTAL FORM! YOU CANNOT HARM IT NOW! BUT YOU---YOU ARE AT MY MERCY!



MY PHYSICAL FORM IS MORE POWERFUL THAN THE TRANCE IMAGES! YOU CAN NOT ESCAPE ME NOW!

I DO NOT DESIRE TO ESCAPE YOU!

YOU MEAN YOU SURRENDER, STRANGE???

JUST THE OPPOSITE, MORDO! I HAVE WON!! THE MASTER IS SAFER!



YOU BLUNDERED INTO MY TRAP! MY AMULET DID NOT HAVE THE POWER TO LEAD ME HERE! BUT YOU DID, IN YOUR PANIC! NOW, WITH YOU IN YOUR MORTAL FORM, YOUR HYPNOTIC CONTROL OVER THE MASTER'S SERVANT IS ENDED!



EVEN NOW, THE MASTER IS BEING CARED FOR BY HIS SERVANT! HIS FULL STRENGTH IS RETURNED! AND THE POWER OF MY AMULET WILL HOLD YOU MOTIONLESS, SO, UNTIL I CAN BE SAFELY GONE!

BAH! THIS IS BUT A TEMPORARY VICTORY FOR YOU, STRANGE! I'LL NEVER REST TILL I HAVE DESTROYED YOU! YOU AND THE MASTER!

AND, ONCE AGAIN, IN THE PRESENCE OF THE MASTER...

YOU HAVE DONE WELL, STRANGE! HOW IRONIC THAT OF BOTH MY PUPILS, ONLY ONE FULFILLED HIS PROMISE, WHILE THE OTHER--- BARON MORDO, THREATENS US SO LONG AS HE LIVES!

IT MAY NOT BE MUCH LONGER, MASTER--- FOR I FEEL THAT DEATH WAITS FOR ONE OF US--- THE ONE WHO LOSES THE NEXT ENCOUNTER!

THE MYSTIC ARTS OF BLACK MAGIC ARE OLDER THAN THE MEMORY OF MAN! IN TIME TO COME, LET US PEER BEHIND THE ENCHANTED VEIL TOGETHER!

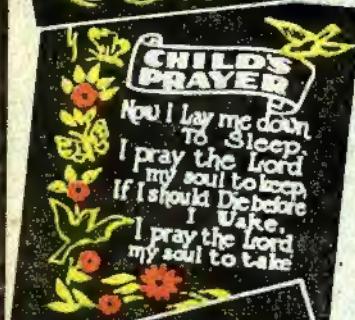
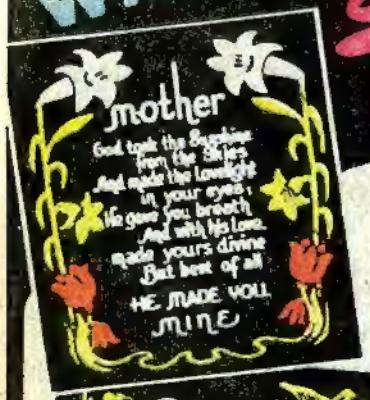


MORE OF THE OCCULT ADVENTURES OF DR. STRANGE WILL APPEAR IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF STRANGE TALES...

- THE END -

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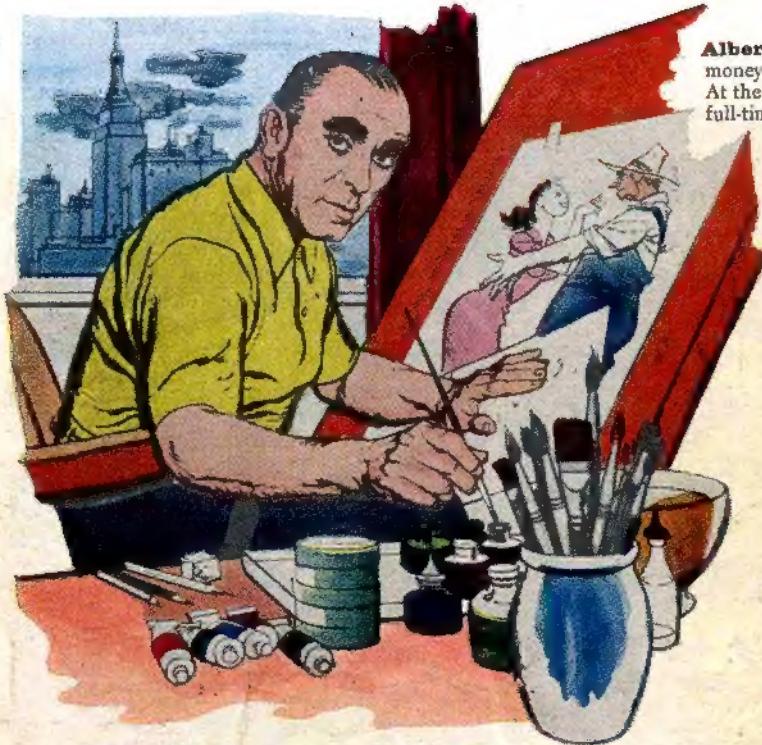
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He's Looking for People Who Like to Draw

TO DAY HUNDREDS of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working happily at easels and drawing boards, making pictures, and getting well paid for it. They all can thank Albert Dorne, a famous artist who devotes almost his full time to helping other people become artists.

Some of the people Dorne has helped

Herb Smith was a payroll clerk. Soon after he started studying with us, he landed an art job with a large printing firm. This was four years ago; today he's head artist for the same firm.

John Buskett is another. He was a pipefitter's helper in a big gas company. Today he still works for the same company, but as an artist in the advertising department, with a big increase in pay.

Harriet Kuzniewski was bored with an "ordinary" job before she heard of Albert Dorne. Today she does high-style fashion illustration in New York.

With the right training, Wanda Pickulski gave up her typing job to become fashion artist for a local department store.

John Whitaker of Memphis was an airline clerk two years ago. Recently he won a national cartooning contest and was signed to do a newspaper comic strip.

Long before Albert Dorne started looking for people who like to draw, they came to him for advice and help. Since he alone could only help a few of these people he called together America's most successful artists—men like Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Stevan Dohanos and Al Parker.

A Plan to Help Others

He said: "All over America, there are people who like to draw, who could be turned into good artists. Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years? I'm suggesting a new kind of school—a home-study art school

Albert Dorne—probably the greatest money-maker in the history of commercial art. At the height of his career, he began a full-time search for people who like to draw.

that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live."

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they spent several years creating a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, the famous artists developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

Albert Dorne is not surprised by the success of his students. "The art field is growing. We keep getting calls from all over the country, asking us for practical, well-trained students who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs."

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the famous artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid \$1 for this test, but now the School offers it free and will grade it free. If you show talent on the test, you will be eligible for training by the School. No obligation. Simply mail coupon. It might be your first step to an exciting, well-paid career in art.

Famous Artists Schools

Studio 5943, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists' Talent Test.

Mr. Mrs. Miss (please print) Age

Address

City Zone

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Accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the National Home Study Council, Washington, D.C.

America's 12 Most Famous Artists

Norman Rockwell	Fred Ludekens
Jon Whitcomb	Ben Stahl
Al Parker	Robert Fawcett
Stevan Dohanos	Austin Briggs
George Giusti	Harold Von Schmidt
Peter Helck	Albert Dorne